All Vermont Acute Care Community Hospitals

Table 7 - Cost Shift - Actual 2013

A hospital incurs costs to provide services to their patients. All patients, regardless of their ability to pay, are billed the same amount for the same service. Sometimes the payment received by the hospital is less than cost for the services provided. This includes payments from uninsured, Medicare, and Medicaid patients. When the payment doesn't cover the cost to provide those services, this unreimbursed cost is passed on to other payers; this is the "cost shift". The ability to cost shift helps the hospital recover funds it would not otherwise receive in order to maintain its financial health.

Cost Shifted by Payer Type				
		Medicaid	Medicare	Uncompensated
	Total Payments	Payments	Payments	(non-payment)
Hospital	under Cost	under Cost	under Cost	Cost of Care
Brattleboro Memorial Hospital	\$13,923,256	\$6,413,181	\$4,033,253	\$3,476,823
Central Vermont Hospital	\$21,434,091	\$9,898,326	\$6,667,036	\$4,868,730
Copley Hospital	\$9,930,450	\$5,514,435	\$2,429,643	\$1,980,976
Fletcher Allen Health Care	\$156,890,836	\$27,674,011	\$105,159,567	\$24,057,258
Gifford Medical Center	\$8,243,599	\$5,459,259	\$1,058,367	\$1,725,973
Grace Cottage Hospital	\$28,222	\$1,169,080	(\$1,891,975)	\$751,118
Mount Ascutney Hospital	\$2,137,307	\$2,785,809	(\$2,987,601)	\$2,339,099
North Country Hospital	\$12,585,680	\$7,697,071	\$2,467,854	\$2,420,755
Northeastern VT Regional Hospital	\$11,116,031	\$5,729,553	\$2,899,538	\$2,486,941
Northwestern Medical Center	\$12,822,094	\$8,043,017	\$1,578,545	\$3,200,533
Porter Medical Center	\$7,463,494	\$5,334,533	(\$663,434)	\$2,792,396
Rutland Regional Medical Center	\$50,811,723	\$17,107,525	\$27,066,292	\$6,637,906
Southwestern Vermont Medical Center	\$23,552,220	\$10,267,735	\$9,758,446	\$3,526,039
Springfield Hospital	\$5,814,551	\$3,819,499	(\$1,572,175)	\$3,567,227
SYSTEM	\$ 336,753,555	\$ 116,913,032	\$ 156,003,354	\$63,831,772

This table shows the amount of underpayments (compared to cost) by Medicare, Medicaid, and Uncompensated Care (free care and bad debt expenses). The left column shows the total of these underpayments and is the amount that is shifted to other payers. This total is the cost shift.